REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending. Claims 13 and 14 are allowed. Claim 20 has been amended. In view of the following, all pending claims are in condition for allowance. If, after considering this response, the Examiner does not agree that all of the claims are allowable, he is requested to schedule a teleconference with the Applicants' attorney to further the prosecution of the application.

Rejection of claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

Claim 20 has been amended to remove the limitation "generated before the first chaos-based pseudo-random value." This limitation is redundant because in claim 15, the first chaos-based pseudo-random value is generated after the first pseudo-random value. As a result, in claim 20, if the first pseudo-random value is generated after a previous chaos-based pseudo-random value, then by definition the previous chaos-based pseudo-random value is generated before the first chaos-based pseudo-random value recited in claim 15.

Claim 20 recites generating the first pseudo-random value from a previous chaos-based pseudo-random value. Such a limitation is supported, for example, by paragraph 54 of the present application. The method of generating a chaos-based pseudo-random value "could be easily repeated" so that the chaos-based pseudo-random value of a generator can be used by other "generators of sequences of pseudo-random numbers" (paragraph 54). The first pseudo-random value recited in claim 15 is generated with a chaotic map, and therefore, is a chaos-based pseudo-random value. As the present application clearly states (in paragraph 54), this method can easily be repeated so that the chaos-based pseudo-random value recited in claim 15 is generated from a similar chaos-based pseudo-random value (as recited in claim 20). Therefore, claim 20 is clearly supported by the specification.

Rejection of claims 1-3, 5-7 and 15-27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Butler (US 6,678,707)

Claim 1

Claim 1 recites generating numbers of a pseudo-random sequence and calculating numbers of a chaos-based pseudo-random sequence by applying a function to corresponding integer numbers of the pseudo-random sequence, where the inverse of the function has a plurality of branches.

For example, referring, e.g., to paragraphs 52-70 of the present application, a method includes generating numbers of a pseudo-random sequence x_n and calculating numbers of a chaos-based pseudo-random sequence X_n by applying a function H(x) to corresponding integer numbers of the pseudo-random sequence x_n , where the inverse of the function H(x) has a plurality of branches. It should be noted that the generated sequence x_n is pseudo-random, and by definition is reconstructable from a seed (paragraph 11). This is only possible if the generated sequence is not random, but pseudo-random. It is important that the generated sequence be pseudo-random so that the sequence can be reconstructed for decrypting.

Butler, on the other hand, does not disclose generating numbers of a pseudorandom sequence and calculating numbers of a chaos-based pseudo-random sequence by applying a function to corresponding integer numbers of the pseudo-random sequence, where the inverse of the function has a plurality of branches. Instead, Butler addresses the problem of generating truly random numbers (col. 4, lines 35-40). As a result, Butler cannot be used in cryptographic codes in which the receiver of the data needs to reconstruct the random number sequence to decrypt the data because Butler generates a sequence of truly random numbers that is unpredictable. Again, it should be emphasized that Butler generates a truly random sequence of numbers, and not a pseudo-random sequence (col. 6, lines 6-9).

Specifically, Butler discloses a means 800 that carries out a post-processing algorithm for eliminating all possible correlations/dependencies between successive random numbers generated by a MISR 402-412 (FIG. 8; col. 8, lines 5-27). The means 800 does not generate a sequence of chaos-based pseudo-random numbers by evolving from a given pseudo-random number used as a seed, but instead calculates

only one truly random number as a function of the current random number generated by the MISR 402-412 using a hash function or another function (col. 8, lines 16-27).

In fact, after reviewing Butler in its entirety, the Applicants' attorney is unable to find any mention of generating a pseudo-random sequence of numbers. Butler only discloses a sequence of numbers that is truly random and unpredictable, and cannot be reconstructed from a seed for decrypting. Therefore, Butler does not satisfy all of the limitations of claim 1.

Claims 15 and 26-27

Claims 15 and 26-27 are patentable for reasons similar to those recited above in support of the patentability of claim 1.

Claims 2-3, 5-7 and 16-25

Claims 2-3, 5-7 and 16-25 are patentable by virtue of their respective dependencies from claims 1 and 15.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, claims 1-27 are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner determines that additional fees are necessary, he is authorized to charge them to deposit account number 07-1897.

If, after considering this response, the Examiner does not agree that all of the claims are allowable, then it is respectfully requested that the Examiner schedule a phone interview with the Applicants' attorney at (425) 455-5575.

Dated this 3rd day of March, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

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